

District Office:
13501 SW 128th Street
Suite 115
Miami, FL 33186
305-252-4300
305-252-4333 (Fax)



Tallahassee Office:
1102 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 488-9550

Florida House of Representatives

Representative Frank Artiles

District 119

July 20, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

Like other states hit hard by the recession, Florida is focused on job creation. We have a talented and diverse workforce ready to embrace the challenges of the future. With that in mind, I am writing in reference to AT&T's proposal to merge with T-Mobile USA, which is under review on the Commission's 11-65 docket. This merger offers tremendous opportunities for job creation within the telecommunications industry, as well as for small businesses that support telecom.

Private investment is one of the strongest factors in promoting job creation, and AT&T is prepared to invest \$8 billion in private capital should this merger be approved. The investment capital would be used to combine the companies' two networks and extend service to more areas, including additional rural towns and counties that currently lack access to high-speed broadband internet.

Just as important is the "bounce" effect. AT&T is a leader in wireless communications and is consistently upgrading its broadband service. New industries that utilize advanced wireless are already emerging and poised for growth. Those companies create mobile phone applications, as well as software for telemedicine and online learning. As broadband continues to evolve, there will be new opportunities for tech-savvy companies to expand and create good-paying jobs.

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Thank you for the chance to provide these comments in regard to the AT&T and T-Mobile merger. I hope you and the Commission will grant consent to the merger for the benefit of all.

Please do not hesitate to contact me in the future if I can ever be of any assistance in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Frank Artiles", written in a cursive style.

Representative Frank Artiles
District 119

CC: Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn